

## **SECRETARY OF STATE**

Dear California Voters,

Whether you cast your ballot in person or through the convenience of the mail, I urge you to participate in the special statewide election on November 8th. There is no greater civic responsibility than to exercise your right to vote. Elections are the highest expression of civic participation that we have in a free society, and we must cherish, honor, and protect this privilege faithfully.

There are several important measures for your consideration on the upcoming ballot. These measures were placed on the ballot through the initiative process.

In this pamphlet, you will find information to assist you in making informed choices. Impartial analyses, arguments in favor and against the measures, the official summaries, texts of the measures themselves, and other useful information is presented here as your one-stop educational point of reference. These materials are also available on the Secretary of State's web site at www.voterguide.ss.ca.gov. The web site also provides a link to campaign finance disclosure information (http://cal-access.ss.ca.gov/Campaign/Initiatives/List.aspx) so you can learn who is funding the campaigns.

Special statewide elections are not a common occurrence and often result in a lower turnout than in regularly scheduled elections. But with issues on this ballot that affect social, financial, medical, and educational areas, making the commitment to voice your opinions through the ballot box is a wise investment.

Please let my office or your local elections official know if you have questions, ideas, or concerns about registering to vote or voting. We have a toll-free hotline for contacting us—1-800-345-VOTE.

Thank you for being a part of California's future by casting your ballot in the November 8th special statewide election.